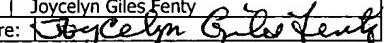


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Patrick Gane, Matthias Buri and Beat Karth
Appl. No. : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/IBP2003/005063)
Filed : Herewith
For : AQUEOUS SUSPENSIONS OF GROUND MINERAL MATERIALS, WITH LOW ION LOAD AND THEIR USES
Customer No. : 1912
Examiner : Not yet assigned
Group Art Unit : Not yet assigned

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Date of Deposit:	April 21, 2005
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Name:	Joycelyn Giles Fenty
Signature:	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, line 3 directly after the title of the invention:

This application is a U.S. National Phase of PCT Application No. PCT/IB2003/005063, filed November 6, 2003, and claims priority to French Application No. 02/14001, filed November 8, 2002.